



**REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 4, 2011
County Administration Center**

Voting Members Present

Hon. Cynthia Bashant (Chair); Alfredo Aguirre; Sandra Simmer (for Mary Baum); Katherine Smith-Brooks; Jorge Cabrera; Lynn Neault (for Constance Carroll); Danny Melgoza (for Supervisor Greg Cox); Margie deRuyter; David Estrella (County Housing and Community Development); Lt. Jim Bolwerk (for William D. Gore); Laura Mustari (for Paula Guerra); Heather Nemour (for Margarita Holguin); Mack Jenkins; Naomi Chavez (for Barbara Jimenez); Joe Fulcher (for Bill Kowba); Sharon Lawrence; Tilisha Martin; Sandra McBrayer; Stephen Magruder (for Thomas Edward Montgomery); Candy Morales; Walter Philips (Vice-chair); Meredith Riffel; Rev. Rolland Slade; Donald Stump; Marsha Sutton; Tonya Torosian; JoAnne Ventre; Loretta Middleton (for Randolph Ward); Daphyne Watson; Charles Wilson; Roseann Myers (for Debra Zanders-Willis) (Secretary)

Alternate Members Present

Susan Bower

Visitors Present

Stephen Carroll (San Diego Youth Services); Sam Rigby (LEAP); Shannon Jauregu (NHA); Jean Selze (National Alliance on Mental Illness); Beck Kennedy; Ellen Schmeding (Aging and Independent Services); Aida Gutierrez (The Rose House); Addie Hawkins (The Rose House)

Staff Present

Kim Forrester, Renee Rambus, Harold Randolph

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Honorable Cynthia Bashant.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Approval of the Minutes – September 9, 2011

Motion made by Roseann Myers and seconded by Jorge Cabrera to accept the minutes of September 9, 2011. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Report from the Chair

Judge Bashant announced that Tonya Torosian has accepted the position of CEO at Promises2Kids and Kim Forrester, Assistant Deputy Director, Strategic Planning & Operation Support will serve as acting Executive Director to such time the position of Executive Director for the Commission on Children, Youth and Families is filled.

V. Action Items (Motion Required)

1. Ratify the Executive Committee's June 24, 2011 vote approving a request for sponsorship of \$5,000 to Passport to Life 2011 San Diego Justice Foundation.

Sandra McBrayer inquired about the San Diego Justice Foundation. Mack Jenkins stated that the San Diego Justice Foundation was the Fiscal Agent for the Passport to Life 2011 event. Ms. McBrayer stated she would like more information about the Foundation and asked that the Executive Committee obtain additional information and submit their findings to the Commission.

Motion made by Mack Jenkins and seconded by Meredith Riffel to ratify the Executive Committee approval of the request for sponsorship for \$5,000 to support Passport to Life 2011 using San Diego Justice Foundation as the fiscal agent. Motion approved.

Recusals for the Record: Loretta Middleton and Naomi Chavez

2. Ratify the Executive Committee's June 24, 2011 vote approving a request for sponsorship of \$15,100 for the Chadwick Center for Families' Child Maltreatment Conference January 22 - 28, 2012, with the condition that they allow San Diego professionals to attend free or at a sliding cost.

Motion made by Loretta Middleton and seconded by Laura Mustari to ratify the Executive Committee approval of a request for sponsorship of \$15,100 for the Chadwick Center for Families' Child Maltreatment Conference January 22 – 28, 2012 with the condition that they allow San Diego professionals to attend free or at a sliding cost, using Promises2Kids as the fiscal agent. Motion approved.

Recusals for the Record: Charles Wilson, Tonya Torosian and Naomi Chavez

3. Ratify the Executive Committee's September 16, 2011 vote approving a request to support the Education Committee Attendance Project: San Ysidro School District.

The ratification vote for approval today is for the project only and not on the budget of the Project. The budget will be presented to the Commission at its January 2012 meeting along with a presentation from the SDSU Social Work Interns, who are working with the San Ysidro School District Attendance Project.

Motion made by Mack Jenkins and seconded by Donald Stump to ratify the Executive Committee approval of the request to support the Education Committee Attendance Project: San Ysidro School District and request a presentation of the Project, including the budget and associated funding request at the January Commission meeting. Motion approved.

Recusal for the Record: Naomi Chavez

4. Ratify the Executive Committee's October 21, 2011 vote of support for Child Welfare Services, Transitional Youth Housing for Former San Diego Dependents and Wards Who Aged Out of the Foster Care System, letter to the County Board of Supervisors.

Motion made by Meredith Riffel and seconded by Tilisha Martin to ratify the Executive Committee approval of a statement of support to the County Board of Supervisors supporting Child Welfare Services recommendation to put out for competitive bid more transitioning housing for former San Diego dependents and wards that aged out of the Foster Care System. Motion approved.

Recusals for the Record: Sandra McBrayer, Walter Philips, Tonya Torosian, Naomi Chavez, Loretta Middleton, Donald Stump and Laura Mustari

Action Items for Discussion and Vote

5. San Diego Youth Services (SDYS) request for Commission one-time grant to launch the TAY Academy during the period of January 1, 2012 to June 30, 2012.

For the Record Walter Philips made the following statement. "I have a remote interest in this matter, the one that is coming up next; therefore, I am rescuing myself for consideration or discussion about this matter on participation of both. I will be removing myself from this room while you are having this discussion."

Judge Bashant stated that a presentation was made on the TAY Academy at the Commission's September meeting by Stephen Carroll with San Diego Youth Services (SDYS) and the Commission was enthusiastic about the concept of the Academy as a drop-in center for youth 16 -21 years of age to get all of their services met at one site. The TAY Academy requested support from the Commission for \$100,000 to help with funding for the first six months. Judge Bashant stated that the Executive Committee had raised the issue of sustainability and Mr. Carroll will give a brief presentation.

Stephen Carroll, Director, Homeless/Transition Age Services, San Diego Youth Services reported as follows. He stated that San Diego Youth Services is committed to the project and has started the transforming of the youth center. They have transferred some of the youth staff and THP+ program staff to the site. With regards to sustainability of funding, San Diego Youth Services had partnered with San Diego Grantmakers around the planning process for TAY Academy and they helped to fund the planning process and San Diego Grantmakers members are current funders of the TAY Academy and SDYS is hopeful they will continue to fund. Based on the planning process, SDYS was able to craft a solid proposal that we feel would serve as a good platform for other funders such as the Request for Proposals (RFP) No. 5087, County of San Diego Behavioral Health Services, Transition Age and Foster Youth Project.

Judge Bashant thanked Mr. Carroll for his clarification on the issue of sustainability and asked Mr. Randolph to give his presentation on the Spending Plan to outline the present budget that ties in with the request and address the issue with LEAP in regards to the TAY Academy.

Spending Plan Update: Harold Randolph, CCYF, Analyst II

Harold Randolph stated that the Children's Trust Fund Spending Plan was approved by the Board of Supervisors in March 2011 for \$1.5 million. A majority of that \$1.5 million goes to contracts that Child Welfare Services oversees. The balance as of today is about \$97,000 for Parenting Conference and Child Abuse Prevention Month activities and all the items that relate directly to Child Abuse.

Child Abuse Prevention Council	\$ 135,000.00
CCYF Impact Fund	\$ 350,000.00
Child Abuse Prevention, Intervention and Treatment Services	\$ 800,000.00
Legal Services	\$ 145,000.00
Mothers Impacted by Substance Abuse	\$ 99,967.00
Total Expenditures	\$1,529,967.00

Listed are activities that the Commission has supported:

Child Welfare Services - support trainings and stipends for the implementation of a "Cultural Broker Model"	\$50,000.00
Sponsorship of Passport to Life 2011 San Diego Justice Foundation.	\$ 5,000.00
Sponsorship Chadwick Center for Families' Child Maltreatment Conference January 22 - 28, 2012	\$15,100.00
Sponsorship of 2011 Hope in the Park	\$ 5,000.00
Sponsorship of California State University San Marcos ACE Scholars Sponsorship of "Building Better Futures" event	\$ 2,500.00

Mr. Randolph stated that a copy of the Spending Plan budget will be emailed to members.

Judge Bashant stated that when the budget was first proposed from the TAY Academy, there was additional funds required to pay the salary for a youth liaison who would go out in the community and recruit for the TAY Academy. Should the Commission decide to fund the TAY Academy, the LEAP Coordinator who performs this service on behalf of the Commission, could be co-located at the TAY Academy and not fund two separate positions. If the LEAP coordinator is the youth coordinator at the TAY Academy, benefits would be provided which would be advantageous to the LEAP coordinator does not currently receive any benefits. The LEAP coordinator is funded through a fiscal agent, Just in Time and the question is would we want to use the TAY Academy as the fiscal agent in the future if the TAY Academy request was approved. There were concerns expressed by Child Welfare that it would compromise LEAP ability to be independent if the position was changed.

Judge Bashant stated that the TAY Academy is within the Commission's focus area - transitioning age youth and is an innovative idea that encourages collaboration which the Commission likes to support. However, it is housed under SDYS which raises concerns about funding one particular organization.

Motion made by Charles Wilson and seconded by JoAnne Ventre that the issue be referred to the Executive Committee to draft a policy/guidelines that that outlines a process to evaluate spending proposals to be funded by the Children's Trust Fund/ CCYF Impact Fund. This may include having the proposals go through one of the subcommittees for review and presented to the full Commission with recommendations. The request for funding was tabled.

Recusals for the Record: Walter Philips who was not present during the discussion of the item

6. Child Welfare Services request for Commission review and support of the Draft County Self Assessment (CSA) Report and letter to the County Board Supervisors. Roseann Myers, Assistant Deputy Director and Becky Leib Kennedy, Policy Analyst, Health and Human Services, Child Welfare Services, Policy and Program.

Roseann Myers, Assistant Deputy Director, Child Welfare Services (CWS), stated that members received a copy of the Draft County Self Assessment (CSA) report and Board letter going to the Board of Supervisors. The Board Letter is going to the Board of Supervisors in January to approve the submission of the 2011 County Self Assessment, verifying public input as required by State regulations. Child Welfare Services would like to request an advisory Board statement from the Commission in support of the CSA Board Letter.

Ms. Myers stated the CWS's mission is to build community partnerships to support families and ensure the well-being of all children in San Diego County and CSA in four focus areas which are: Placement Stability, Reunification, Prevention, and Agency Collaboration. She reported some of the areas that need improvement are:

- Establish a regional service array threshold

- Strengthen regions with low collaboration and community ties
- Increase collaboration and communication between sectors
- Improve community outreach and engagement
- Increase access to financial assistance and basic needs
- Improve quality of group homes environment and staffing

Ms. Myers stated that the CSA Report timeline is as follows:

- Presentation to the Commission on Children, Youth and Families (CCYF) Nov 4, 2011
- Presentation to the County Board of Supervisors Jan 10, 2012
- Report submitted to State Jan 15, 2012
- Release of report Jan 15, 2012

Motion made by Jorge Cabrera and Seconded by Tonya Torosian to approve the County Self Assessment (CSA) Report, and provide a statement of support to the Board of Supervisor stating that the Commission has reviewed and support the County Self Assessment (CSA) Report. Motion approved.

Recusal for the Record: Naomi Chavez

A PowerPoint was presented and is available upon request by contacting the Commission office.

7. Promises2Kids request for Commission support of a sponsorship of \$7,500 for the San Diego County Education Summit Youth Leadership Development Conference June 2012.

Motion made by Charles Wilson and seconded by Tilisha Martin to support Promises2Kids sponsorship of \$7,500 for the San Diego County Education Summit Youth Leadership Development Conference June 2012. Motion approved.

Recusal for the Record: Naomi Chavez, Tonya Torosian and Sandra McBrayer

VI. Presentations

- A. San Diego Child Protection Team – Protocol – Understanding The San Diego Victim Witness Team Protocol; Charles Wilson, MSSW, Executive Director, Chadwick Center for Children and Families Rady Children's Hospital – San Diego

Due to time constraints, the San Diego Child Protection Team – Protocol – Understanding The San Diego Victim Witness Team Protocol presentation was tabled until the January 6, 2012 Commission meeting. Mr Wilson distributed the Child Victim-Witness Protocol.

- B. 2012 Conference Update

Parenting Conference: Harold Randolph, CCYF, Analyst II

Harold Randolph stated that the 2012 Parenting Conference will be held on Saturday, March 24, 2012, 8:00 am – 2:00 pm at NTC Event Center, 2801 Rosecrans Street, San Diego and members will continue to receive updates as the conference approaches.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren in San Diego County Symposium: Ellen Schmeding, MFT, Assistant Deputy Director, Aging & Independence Services, Health & Human Services

Ms. Schmeding reported some statistics on grandparents raising grandchildren. She stated that one out of every 10 children in the U.S. lives with a grandparent; in San Diego, 72,000 grandchildren live with grandparents and of that number, 41% are being primarily raised by the grandparent.

Also, the number of grandparents raising grandchildren increased 8% from 2000 to 2008 and 5% of that increase coincided with the collapse of the economy. Eighteen percent of grandparent caregivers live below the poverty line and low income grandparents have shown the largest increase in numbers.

Ms. Schmeding expressed thanks to the leadership of Supervisor Cox who on October 25 led a Board action that directed the

Chief Administrative Officer to obtain community input to identify needs, resources and solutions on Grandparents Raising Grandchildren and report back in 180 days with recommendations for action. HHSA formed a workgroup which includes representatives from both the County and community.

The Committee goals consist of:

- ▶ Map the location of grandparents needing assistance in San Diego
 - Identify demographics/need
- ▶ Develop a resource toolkit for grandparents
 - Provide resources by region
 - Virtual and hard-copy resources planned
- ▶ Host a symposium in April with relevant speakers; include resource fair
 - Simulcast speakers to regional locations

Ms. Schmeding stated that she would continue to work with Mr. Randolph to put together a formal request to seek the support and a sponsorship from the Commission.

A PowerPoint was presented and is available upon request by contacting the Commission office.

VII. Additional Business

Alfredo Aguirre, Deputy Director, HHSA Children's Mental Health Services distributed a Fotonovela; a booklet (Moving Forward: How a Family Learns Bout Mental Health) He stated that Fotonovela was chosen as a part of MHS's multi-year, system-wide initiative to increase awareness of, and access to, mental health services, with the intended goal of improving mental health outcomes for Latinos. This medium is known for its popularity in effectively engaging and educating Spanish-speakers and bilingual readers on a wide range of health issues. Mr. Aguirre encouraged members to take the informational booklets and share with their organization and if they needed more copies they could contact his office and it was also available online ([Spanish Fotonovela](#) [English Fotonovela](#)).

VIII. Announcement

Judge Bashant announced that the next Commission will be held on Friday, January 6, 2012 and the location has not been determined due to the construction taking place at CAC. Members will be notified prior to the next meeting if the location changes.

Judge Bashant presented Tonya Torosian a plaque on behalf of the Commission and thanked her for her commitment to CCYF from February 15, 2008 – November 3, 2011.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,